WAUKESHA COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION February 11, 2009

In Attendance:

Katie Belmore; State Traffic Operations Center

Medical Examiner Lynda Biedrzycki; Medical Representative

Sergeant Nate Clarke; Wisconsin State Patrol

Sergeant Michael Douglas; Menomonee Falls Police Department

Michael Grulke; Highway Commissioner Representative

Trooper Tavaris Hunter; Wisconsin State Patrol

Ms. Susie Just; PARC Task Force

Specialist Steven Kraus; City of Waukesha Police Department Representative

Lieutenant Larry LaFavor; Chairman, Traffic Safety Coordinator Ms. Andrea Loeffelholz; DOT Bureau of Transportation Safety Stacey Pierce; Wisconsin DOT Highway Engineering Representative

Trooper David Schmidt; Wisconsin State Patrol

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Traffic Safety Commission Chairman Lieutenant Larry LaFavor at 2:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Sergeant Nate Clarke, of the Wisconsin State Patrol, made a motion to approve the minutes, and Trooper David Schmidt, of the Wisconsin State Patrol, seconded the motion. The minutes were then approved.

TRAFFIC SAFETY LEGISLATION REPORT

Weekly Fatality Report – Monday, February 9, 2009

Ms. Andrea Loeffelholz stated there were fewer fatalities than last year at this time.

Wisconsin Department Of Transportation - Drivers and Vehicles

This included statistics of fatalities by county as of February 16, 2009. Waukesha County reported 1 in year-to-date statistics for the quarter.

Will Wisconsin get a Primary Seat Belt Law???

Currently, 25 states have standard enforcement belt laws. Wisconsin is one of 24 states with a secondary enforcement law. New Hampshire has no mandatory belt use law.

Zero in Wisconsin – A vision we can all live with

A new campaign stating that even one preventable traffic death in Wisconsin is one too many.

COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS

• State Patrol

Sergeant Nate Clarke, from the Wisconsin State Patrol, received a citizen complaint regarding vehicles illegally passing on the right shoulder on Nagawicka Road (approximately in front of Seven Seas) in Hartland. He wanted to know if the Department Of Transportation could put in a passing lane there. Stacey Pierce, from the Department Of Transportation, said she would look into it to see if the road could possibly be widened.

Sergeant Nate Clarke also stated that the I-94 / Calhoun project will start construction on 04-13-09 and continue through October of 2009.

Wisconsin Department Of Transportation

Mitzi Dobersek invited Katie Belmore from the State Traffic Operations Center (STOC) to do a presentation on Traffic Incident Management Enhancement (TIME) in an effort to reach out to as many emergency responders as possible. The mission of the STOC is to manage congestion and improve transportation safety, mobility, and efficiency on Wisconsin's state highways. The TIME program is a comprehensive multi-agency, multi-discipline program, led by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, dedicated to coordinating and enhancing traffic incident management in Wisconsin. Their website is: www.dot.wisconsin.gov/travel/stoc/time.htm Katie Belmore provided information on traffic congestion, delay, and safety. Closing the roadway is not always the solution. Guidelines are established so incident responders have a uniform approach to emergency traffic control and scene management.

A TIME folder and handouts were distributed which included: A TIME Procurement List for incident response partners to purchase items at a quantity discount rate; the Emergency Traffic Control and Scene Management Guidelines; a quick reference guide; brochures on "Move Over or Slow Down" and "If You Can Steer It, Clear It"; Wisconsin 511 traveler information; and information on the 2009 Statewide Traffic Incident Management Conference on May 13 – 14, 2009, at Wisconsin Dells.

PARC Task Force

Susie Just stated the DS2 (Drive Safe Drive Sober) event will be on April 25, 2009, at 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Student registration forms are available. Their website is: www.parctaskforce.org

COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS CONTINUED

Medical

A handouts was given by Medical Examiner Lynda Biedrzycki showing various graphs of Waukesha County 2008 vehicular fatalities, which consisted of: Vehicles Involved, Victim Profiles, Incident Locations, Total Fatalities by Year, Fatalities Each Year by Age Group, and 2000 – 2008 Vehicular Fatalities by Decade of Life. She also distributed the 2008 Fatal Vehicular Accident Report. She stated there were 27 fatalities in Waukesha County for the year 2008.

HIGH CRASH LOCATIONS / FATALS

• Chairman Larry LaFavor reported that the Waukesha Sheriff's Department had four fatalities, as follows:

• Date of Accident: 12-04-08

Location: S87 W27025 National Avenue

The 34-year-old female driver of a 2006 Chevrolet Cobalt lost control, slid sideways into oncoming traffic, and struck a 2004 Buick Rendezvous. The road conditions were described as "glare ice". The driver had not been restrained by any safety equipment. She was taken to Froedtert Hospital by Flight For Life, and was pronounced deceased the next day.

Date of Accident: 12-13-08

Location: Westbound I-94, 1/2 mile west of CTH SS

A 2005 Chrysler Pacifica sport utility vehicle was traveling eastbound on I-94, when its driver was experiencing pain and passed out behind the wheel. The Chrysler crossed over the median through the snow, and struck a 2005 Toyota Scion. The Chrysler then slid off the traffic lane onto the north shoulder of the westbound lanes, and the driver was transported by ambulance to Waukesha Memorial Hospital for injuries. The Toyota slid off the north shoulder, flipping on its passenger side, came to rest on top of a chain link fence in the ditch, and caught on fire, which was put out by citizens with surrounding snow. Both occupants of the Toyota required extrication. The 24-year-old male driver died at the scene from his injuries, and his female passenger was flown by Flight For Life to Froedtert Hospital. The driver of the Chrysler was later found to have had a colon-related disorder and also a brain tumor which he was unaware of.

Date of Accident: 12-16-08

Location: Southbound I-43 and Oakdale Drive

A 55-year-old male pedestrian was standing by the highway in the pavement gravel area waiting for the police to arrive after his vehicle left the roadway, and a 2001 Dodge Durango spun out of control due to snowy conditions and struck the pedestrian. He was taken to Waukesha Memorial Hospital where he passed away due to his injuries.

HIGH CRASH LOCATIONS / FATALS CONTINUED

Date of Accident: 01-27-09

Location: Hillside Road at Watersedge Lane

This single-vehicle accident involved a 2004 Dodge Ram pick-up truck crossed the center lanes going on the east shoulder and struck a tree head-on. The vehicle became engulfed in flames, and the driver was still inside the vehicle. The individual was burned beyond recognition, and did not appear to have utilized his seatbelt. No evidence of braking exists at the scene, therefore, this could possibly be a suicide.

- One fatality from the City of Waukesha, as follows:
 - Date of Accident: 11-27-08

Location: I-94 and Highway T off-ramp

A double-fatal occurred on Thanksgiving Day when the driver of a 2006 Chevrolet Impala struck a concrete barrier. The 82-year-old driver and his 79-year-old wife, who was the front seat passenger, both died as a result of the accident. The vehicle was traveling at a speed under 45 miles per hour, and there was no airbag deployment.

- One fatality from Menomonee Falls, as follows:
 - Date of Accident: 12-19-08

Location: Southbound Lilly Road, .1 mile north of Appleton Avenue
A 15-year-old girl was the victim of a weather-related fatality when she was ejected from the minivan she was in. She was the rear passenger in the vehicle as it was traveling approximately 30 miles per hour, hit a patch of ice, skidded out of control, and struck a tree.

NEW BUSINESS

Traffic Safety Commission Chairman Lieutenant Larry LaFavor introduced Michael Grulke, Senior Civil Engineer from the Waukesha County Department of Public Works, as the new Highway Commissioner Representative. He is replacing Paul Barthel.

NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING SCHEDULED

The next meeting of the Waukesha County Traffic Safety Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13, 2009, at 2:00 p.m., at the City of Waukesha Police Department.

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ADJOURNMENT

Sergeant Nate Clarke, of the Wisconsin State Patrol, made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Specialist Steven Kraus, of the City of Waukesha Police Department. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Gregesich Waukesha County Sheriff's Department

NOTE: An E-mail was sent to all Traffic Safety Commission members on 02-18-09, with Stacey Pierce's reply to Sergeant Nate Clark, which stated:

"There is actually a subdivision planned on the east side of STH 83 at that intersection. They will have the developer rebuild that side of the intersection and likely add a NB right turn lane when it is developed. I don't have a timeframe for the development, but I'm not seeing a crash problem for this movement. Therefore, I don't think it's worth pursuing tearing out the concrete radii stub and installing a bypass lane at this time because by the time we got this accomplished, the development could be beginning."

(MINUTES APPROVED ON 05-13-09)